Road for villages in Pauri Garhwal under PMGSY

1633. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to change the criteria for inclusion of villages in PMGSY, especially for hilly States where several small villages with less population can be benefited by single road;

(b) if so, whether Government would connect Allasu, Kunkuli, Cimashera, Thanul and Jhakhnoli, villages of Pauri Garhwal, with Satpuli-Viyasghat road under PMGSY;

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when the work is likely to be started; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor keeping in view that all above villages can be connected by a single 6 km. long road?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (d) Certain clarifications have recently been issued to the States which include, *inter alia*, stipulation regarding the clubbing of population of all Habitations within a radius of 500 metres for the purpose of determining the population size. This cluster approach is expected to enable provision of connectivity to a large number of Habitations, particularly in the Hill/mountainous areas. States are expected to keep these in view while formulating proposals in conformity with the Guidelines of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). No proposal has so far been received from the State Government regarding the villages mentioned in part (b) of the question.

Performance of SHGs in Andhra Pradesh

1634. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) formed particularly in reserved categories of SCs, STs and Women in Andhra Pradesh and financial assistance provided to them since inception of the Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SJGSY) year-wise and district-wise; and